

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as indicated below:

The paragraph beginning at line 10 of page 36 has been amended as follows:

Fig. 8 is a longitudinal sectional view of the head, showing a condition that the a release cap 220 is inserted into a joint rubber 211 through slit 211a thereof (see Fig. 9), such that a cylindrical pipe portion of release cap 220 functions as a slit-forming member.

The paragraph beginning at line 13 of page 36 has been amended as follows:

As shown in Fig. 8, a release cap (atmosphere releasing member) 220 for releasing the closed space in the ink jet head 201 to the atmosphere is inserted into the joint rubber 211 in the connector insertion port 201a as the ink introduction portion to the ink jet head 201, and an absorbing body 221 is urged to be closely contacted with an atmosphere releasing port of the release cap 220. As a result, if the liquid in the sub-tank is discharged through the atmosphere releasing port for any reason, such liquid can be absorbed by closely contacting the absorbing body 221 with the atmosphere releasing port, thereby preventing an area surrounding the head from being wetted. The release cap 220 has a thumbtack-like shape having a cylindrical pope with a flange, so that the closed space of

the ink jet head 201 can be released to the atmosphere by inserting the cylindrical pipe into the closed slit 211a (see Fig. 9) of the joint rubber 211.

The paragraph beginning at line 22 of page 41 has been amended as follows:

The ink jet head 201 (refer to C portion 250 in Fig. 15) in which the connector insertion portion thereof is lifted by the connector insertion port receiving portion 224a is urged against a head abutment portion provided in the tray 224. In this condition, by press-fitting an absorbing body 221 between the release cap 220 (or, slit-forming member) and the tray 224, the ink jet head 201 is fixed or secured. However, the absorbing body 221 may previously be installed in the tray 224 and then the ink jet head 201 may be fitted in the tray.